Scheduled Tribes, regarding appointments in Government and Public Sector Undertakings;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to follow the ratio decidendi of aforesaid cases in service matters, since August, 1995;

(c) whether Government have received any representation regarding refixing or revising the seniority of officials, in accordance with the ratio decidendi; and

(d) if so, what steps Government have taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.R. BALASUBRAMONIYAN): (a) to (d) The Supreme Court has, in the recent past, delivered some important judgements in respect of the reservation policy and allied matters, such as those in the cases of R.K. Sabharwal Vs. State of Punjab and Union of India Vs. Virpal Singh Chauhan. The Government have initiated steps to implement these judgements.

Increase in LPCD norms

2174. PROF. RAM KAPSE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the meeting of Chief Ministers on 4th and 5th July, 1996 convened by the Prime Minister, it was principally agreed to increase litres per capita per day (LPCD) norms from 40 LPCD to 55 LPCD and to allow thirty per cent private house connections;

(b) whether Government's sanction in this regard has been communicated to State Governments;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS & EMPLOYMENT & MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) and (b) The Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment has reported that the Chief Ministers' Conference recognised the inadequacy of the present norms of 40 LPCD and recommended that this be revised to 55 LPCD and the schemes be designed with a planning horizon of 30 years. Similarly, the distance norm be reduced from1.6 Km. to 500 mts. in plain areas and 100 mts. vertical distance in hill areas. No recommendation to allow thirty percent private house connection has been made.

(c) and (b) The recommendations have been forwarded by the Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment to the States/UTs for appropriate action.

Energy Generation from Urban and Industrial Waste

2175. SHRI RAM DAS AGARWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps so far to promote projects for energy generation from urban and industrial waste in the country;

(b) whether any units for collecting and processing wastes have been set up, particularly in Rajasthan and Orissa; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the present status of each project in each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of India in the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy sources launched a "National Programme on Energy Recovery from urban, Municipal and Industrial Wastes", providing fiscal and financial incentives to promote projects for generation of Energy from